

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMCONSUL BELIZE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 113936

FOR CHIEFS OF MISSION FROM HEW RYAN

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OTRA, CS, ES, HO, NU, GT, PA, BH

SUBJECT: ARA-LA/CEN CONSULTANT - AMBASSADOR C.G. ROSS (RET)

1. ADDRESSEES (WITH EXCEPTION OF PANAMA) WILL RECALL THAT AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 OF JANUARY CENTRAL AMERICAN CHIEFS OF MISSION CONFERENCE CONCERNED U.S. POLICY AND STRATEGY FOR CENTRAL AMERICA. ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS, WHO CHAIRED DISCUSSION, DESCRIBED IT AS FIRST STEP TOWARD DEVELOPMENT OF CENTRAL AMERICAN POLICY STATEMENT. HE ALSO STATED THAT WE HOPED TO FIND A QUALIFIED CONSULTANT TO FORMULATE THAT STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF DEPARTMENT. AMBASSADOR CLAUDE G. ROSS (RET.) HAS ACCEPTED THIS ASSIGNMENT, AND ON APRIL 27 HE COMMENCED RESEARCH AND CONSULTATION IN DEPARTMENT AND WITH INTERESTED FOREIGN AFFAIRS AGENCIES.

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2. AMBASSADOR ROSS' ASSIGNMENT ALSO REQUIRES THAT HE VISIT ADDRESSEE POSTS TO CONSULT WITH THE CHIEF OF MISSION AND RANKING OFFICERS OF PRINCIPAL AGENCIES REPRESENTED AT POSTS, AND TO MEET SUCH LOCAL OFFICIALS OR OTHERS AS CHIEF OF MISSION THINKS WOULD BE HELPFUL OR APPROPRIATE. SCENARIO FOR SUCH MEETINGS IS LEFT TO DISCRETION OF EACH POST. IN DESCRIBING PURPOSE OF AMBASSADOR ROSS' VISIT TO LOCAL CONTACTS, SUGGEST POSTS STATE THAT AMBASSADOR ROSS IS CONDUCTING ON-THE-SPOT

REVIEW OF U.S. PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS IN CENTRAL AMERICA. USE OF WORDS "POLICY" AND "STRATEGY" SHOULD BE AVOIDED.

3. FOR PANAMA: PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF AMBASSADOR ROSS' VISIT IS TO CONFER WITH AMBASSADOR AND WITH AID DIRECTOR TRAGEN. IF IT CAN BE ARRANGED, AMBASSADOR ROSS WOULD ALSO LIKE TO CONFER WITH GENERAL MCAULIFFE.

4. FOLLOWING IS AMBASSADOR ROSS' PROPOSED ITINERARY:

--MAY 19: LV MIAMI 1535 VIA TA 311; AR BELIZE 1555
--MAY 21: LV BELIZE 1520 VIA TACA 111; AR SAN SAL 1610
--MAY 25: LV SAN SAL. 1400 VIA CM 318T; AR GUAT. 1435
--MAY 30: LV GUAT. 1230 VIA SAHSA 953T; AR. TEGUC 1320
--JUNE 1: LV TEGUC 1645 VIA SAHSA 415Y; AR MANAGUA 1715
--JUNE 4: LV MANAGUA 1025 VIA TACA 309Y; AR SAN JOSE 1105
--JUNE 8: LV SAN JOSE 1210 VIA CM 401T; AR PANAMA 1415
--JUNE 9: LV PANAMA 1900 VIA AVIANCA 045

5. AMBASSADOR ROSS WILL BE ACCCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE. WOULD APPRECIATE POSTS ARRANGING HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS. KISSINGER

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